

We are Granby residents that have had a wood burning stove (approved, purchased, and permit obtained legally) since August 2005 and use it solely to heat our home. Our furnace is well over 250' away from our nearest neighbor. We have never had a complaint about smoke or smell (most of our neighbors heat with indoor wood stoves anyway). We do not see how the EPA could possibly ban use of the stove for people that obtained it legally and have conformed to all the regulations regarding the stove. If it is, in fact, an environmental issue, than why not ban indoor wood burning stoves, fireplaces, chimeneas, etc. since they ALL burn wood into the SAME atmosphere, in the same way. We made a huge investment into this heating system, and with the way the economy collapsed in the last two years, we would not be able to afford to heat with oil and could actually lose our home if an additional \$6-7,000/year were forced on us to heat with oil. The people making this decision to ban the stoves have no idea the investment of money (for the purchase and installation), time, and hard work that goes into operating this heating system. For most of us, it was a way to heat our home affordably...it certainly is not a "hobby" or preference to be out in sub-zero weather feeding the stove late at night and early in the morning.

Please protect the people who are looking for NATURAL, CLEAN, cost effective ways to heat their homes, and don't let the bill pass. For people that own legally and comply with all the rules of an outdoor furnace, we should be applauded and not punished for doing our share in "Going Green".

Irene McDonald
North Granby, CT